

MAY 20 2005

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the application of: Andrea D. Branch, *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/601020 Conf. #6838

For: *Novel Hepatitis C Virus Peptides and Uses Thereof*

Filing Date: June 20, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: RII-003CPUSDVI

Group Art Unit: 1648

Examiner: T. Brown

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile-transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (703) 872-9306, on the date shown below.

Dated: May 20, 2005

Signature: 

(Megan E Williams)

**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified continued prosecution application as follows:

**Amendments to the specification** begin on page 2.

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 3.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9.

05/24/2005 MHEKONEN 00000050 120080 10601020

01 FC:2201 100.00 DA  
02 FC:2202 575.00 DA